



CONSULATE GENERAL OF THE UNITED STATES
JERUSALEM

U.S. DEPARTMENT of STATE

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Official Websites:

<http://jerusalem.usconsulate.gov>

<http://arabic.jerusalem.usconsulate.gov>

<http://gaza.usvpp.gov>

<http://arabic.gaza.usvpp.gov>

Social Media:

www.facebook.com/UsConGenJerusalem

www.twitter.com/USCGJerusalem

www.youtube.com/UsConGenJerusalem

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UsConGenJerusalem@state.gov**

Thank You!

President Obama on the Occasion of Ramadan



"This year, Ramadan holds special meaning for those citizens in the Middle East and North Africa who are courageously achieving democracy and self-determination and for those who are still struggling to achieve their universal rights. The United States continues to stand with those who seek the chance to decide their own destiny, to live free from fear and violence, and to practice their faith freely. Here in the United States, Ramadan reminds us that Islam is part of the fabric of our Nation, and that—from public service to business, from healthcare and science to the arts—Muslim Americans help strengthen our country and enrich our lives."

بيان من الرئيس بمناسبة حلول شهر رمضان الكريم

"يحمل شهر رمضان في هذا العام معنى خاصاً بالنسبة لأولئك المواطنين في منطقة الشرق الأوسط وشمال أفريقيا الذين يحققون الديمقراطية وتقرير المصير بشجاعة وبسالة، وأيضاً بالنسبة لأولئك الذين ما زالوا يكافحون من أجل نيل حقوقهم المشروعة عالمياً. وتواصل الولايات المتحدة الوقوف إلى جانب أولئك الذين يسعون في سبيل إيجاد الفرصة لتقرير مصيرهم، والعيش دون خوف وعنف، وممارسة شعائزهم الدينية بحرية. وهنا في الولايات المتحدة، يذكّرنا شهر رمضان بأن الإسلام هو جزء من نسيج أمتنا، وأن المسلمين الأميركيين يساهمون في تقوية بلادنا وإثراء حياتنا في شتى المجالات كالخدمة العامة وقطاع الأعمال التجارية والرعاية الصحية والعلوم والفنون."



America House in Jerusalem

is pleased to announce the following program
at our location on Nablus Road

Open Hours for the library during July and August:

Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, 1:30 PM – 4:30 PM

Browse our books and magazines.

Feel free to take a book outside and read in the garden.

English Corner

Join us and practice your English

Tuesday, July 31, 2012, 4:00 PM at America House for Adults

Thursday, August 2, 2012, 2:00 PM at America House for Youth

Are you trying to improve your English?

Do you find yourself too shy to speak sometimes?

Come to America House and join us for some casual English
conversation practice. Adults of all levels are welcome.

Please let us know if you can join us by e-mailing

JerusalemAmericaHouse@state.gov or by calling 02-563-4029 and leaving a message.

*America House is the U.S. Consulate General in Jerusalem's cultural center
in East Jerusalem and was established in 2010.*

البيت الأمريكي هو المركز الثقافي للقنصلية الأمريكية العامة في القدس وتأسس عام 2010



U.S. Consulate Sponsored Singing Contest “Ghaneeha!” Finale **Thousands Vote for the Best Voice (Ahla Sout)**



On July 13, The U.S. Consulate in Jerusalem-sponsored talent competition, [Ahla Sout – Ghaneeha!](#) (Best Voice – Sing it!), results were revealed in an exciting finale concert at the Cultural Palace in Ramallah. An audience of over 700 attended to support the final five contenders, adding to the thousands who voted via Facebook and SMS for their favorite performers over the past few weeks. Consulate representative, Vin Traverso, delivered welcoming remarks, praising the contestants for their hard work and thanking the Palestinian public for voicing support with their votes. In the two-hour concert that followed, three young men and two young women sang their final pieces, rallying their hometown fans and inviting support. After all the votes were counted, Mr. Zaid Hussein from Ramallah was named the winner, receiving a scholarship toward a degree in music performance, donated by partner organization Dar Al Kalimeh College

The finale was the culmination of months of intense competition. In late 2011, more than 200 youth throughout the West Bank and East Jerusalem auditioned for a spot in the program, with only 65 moving on to individualized musical training courses at different locations in Ramallah, Bethlehem, Nablus and Jerusalem. From that group, the trainers selected 25 semi-finalists who participated in a one-week music camp in Jericho with professional musicians. Only eleven made it to the semi-final concerts held in Ramallah, Jerusalem, Hebron and Nablus, with judges and viewers voting for the final five.

Check Out our Latest Youtube Videos

[TechGirls](#): is a U.S. Department of State initiative, and an international exchange program designed to empower young girls to pursue careers in science and technology. In July 2011, Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton announced the launch of TechGirls--a three-week, intensive youth exchange "to encourage innovation and promote the spread of new technologies to give women and girls the support that they need to become leaders in this field."



[Sweet Success](#): February 4, 2012 was a memorable day at Al-Zahra Orphanage for girls in Bethany, thanks to the combined efforts of Viviana Botero-Nicholas from the U.S. Consulate in Jerusalem, AMIDEAST, and alumni of the Youth Exchange and Study (YES) program, funded by the U.S. Department of State. Ms. Botero-Nicholas, an avid baker and cake decorator, offered her talents to train 15 girls at Al-Zahra Orphanage and give them a two month course in cake decorating. As part of the YES alumni's commitment to community service—an integral part of their study abroad program in the U.S.—the students volunteered to help with the workshop by offering translation and guidance. Through these workshops, Ms. Botero-Nicholas hopes to give the young women of the orphanage the baking and decorating skills they need to potentially start their own business one day, empowering these girls to use their talents to grow and find their way in society.



Secretary Clinton's Remarks at Second Annual Global Diaspora Forum



The fact is that the United States has always benefited from the influx of talent and dynamism that diasporas of all kinds bring to our shores. And if you pick up The Washington Post today, you see that Baltimore, among other countries, is actually finally recognizing the importance that immigrants can play in revitalizing cities. And so they are reaching out and inviting – opening the doors of that venerable American city to immigrants from everywhere. Because in fact, we are well aware that our diversity is one of our greatest assets in the 21st century...

Now, when countries across North Africa and the Middle East threw off autocrats and dictators and cried out for skilled professionals to help them build modern economic systems, modern political systems, Americans of Arab descent have been answering that call. And each year, Americans spend billions of dollars in remittances throughout the world. In fact, remittances are the largest form of inflows into many, many countries. And what we're trying to do is figure out how to harness those remittances to do even more than what they are currently doing in supporting individuals and families. See [Video](#)

See Also:

[An "IdEA" that Runs Deep: Engaging America's Diaspora Communities](#)

U.S. Elections

Pamphlet: Political Party Conventions

During the U.S. Democratic and Republican national conventions this summer, thousands of delegates will be waving American flags and signs bearing the name of their party's candidate for president. It will be a stirring sight. But while the excitement on the convention floor is genuine, virtually every moment of the event is scripted and choreographed to have maximum impact on television, computer and smartphone screens. "You put things in people's hands that they can wave and participate with," said William L. Bird, a curator of political history at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington. "The people who manage the stagecraft of the convention — by that I mean what happens on the floor — pay very close attention to this." A national political convention has to accomplish certain things, writes David Mark of *Politico*, a Washington-based news outlet: adopting a party platform (a set of principles) and formally nominating candidates for president and vice president. "The rest of the usual convention stagecraft — acceptance speeches, keynote addresses, and even the traditional roll call vote — are optional bits of political theater."

2012 Conventions: The conventions are held a few months before the presidential election, which is scheduled for November 6 this year. Republicans will gather in Tampa, Florida, August 27 to 30, and Democrats will convene September 3 to 6 in Charlotte, North Carolina. More than 35,000 people — including party members, delegates, journalists, security forces and other service providers — are expected to descend on each of these cities. As with many aspects of U.S. politics, national party conventions have evolved over time to serve the changing needs of the electorate. The U.S. Constitution does not reference political parties or a selection process for candidates to the nation's highest office, but mechanisms arose and adapted to fill that vacuum. Beginning in 1796, members of the U.S. Congress who identified with one of the political parties of the time met informally to agree on their party's presidential and vice presidential nominees.

Primary Elections: Populist demands for reform in the early years of the 20th century led to primary elections that allowed voters to select convention delegates directly. By 1916, more than half the states were holding presidential primaries. After World War I, party leaders successfully pushed back, persuading many state legislatures to abolish primaries. By 1936, only a dozen states continued to hold presidential primaries. The pendulum swung back in the mid-20th century, when television allowed candidates to communicate more directly with voters and heightened voter interest in the nominating process. With each succeeding decade, primaries expanded and the party's nominee became more likely to be determined well in advance of the national convention, based on the results of state primaries. The actual size of any state's delegation to the national nominating convention is calculated by a formula established by each party that considers the state's population, its past support for the party's national candidates and the number of elected officials and party leaders currently serving in statewide and national office from that state.



See a [PDF](#) Version

Also See in [Arabic](#)

The U.S. Consulate General in Jerusalem Announces the 2013 Fulbright Foreign Language Teaching Assistant (FLTA) Program

- The U.S. Consulate General in Jerusalem and the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) are pleased to announce the Fulbright Foreign Language Teaching Assistant (FLTA) Program for FY 2013.

The Fulbright FLTA Program is a nine-month non-degree program that provides young teachers of English an opportunity to refine their teaching skills, increase their English language proficiency, and extend their knowledge of the society and culture of the United States. FLTAs work as teaching assistants for their native language (Arabic) to U.S. students, thus strengthening foreign language instruction at U.S. colleges and universities. Fulbright FLTA participants also interact with their host communities in conversation groups, extracurricular activities, and community outreach projects. Fulbright FLTA participants must return to their home countries upon completion of the program.

Deadline: July 30, 2012.

The U.S. Consulate General in Jerusalem Announces The 2013-2014 Humphrey Program

The Hubert H. Humphrey Fellowship Program is a Fulbright program that brings accomplished young and mid-career professionals with demonstrated leadership potential to the United States for a year of non-degree graduate-level study, leadership development, and professional enrichment. Fellows come from countries in various stages of development or transition. By providing future leaders and policy makers with experience in U.S. society, culture, and professional fields, the program provides a basis for lasting, productive ties between Americans and their professional counterparts overseas. The 2013-2014 Recruitment Guidelines, which may be downloaded from <http://posts.humphreyfellowship.org> Jerusalem and West Bank Applicants: Email CV to Exchanges@state.gov and copy SirianiMY@state.gov; call 02-622-7107 for more information
Gaza Applicants: Email CV to emattar@palnet.com; call 08-286-4623 or 059-967-7317 for more information.

Application Deadline and inquiries:

Please submit application to <http://posts.humphreyfellowship.org/> and send us a copy of your CV by **September 21, 2012.**

Reagan-Fascell Democracy Fellows

Reagan-Fascell Democracy Fellows maintain full-time residence at the [International Forum for Democratic Studies](#), NED's research arm located in Washington, D.C. Dedicated to international exchange, the program offers a collegial environment for fellows to reflect on their experiences and consider lessons learned; conduct research and writing; develop contacts and exchange ideas with counterparts in Washington, D.C.; and build ties that contribute to the development of a global network of democracy advocates.

The Reagan-Fascell program will host two five-month fellowship sessions in 2013-2014: Fall 2013 Session: October 1, 2013 to February 28, 2014
Spring 2014 Session: March 1 to July 31, 2014

For information about the application process, please **read through each of the sections** listed in the **Table of Contents on the right**, paying **particular attention** to the sections under [About Us](#) and [Submitting Your Application](#).

Once you have familiarized yourself with this information, you may proceed to our [Online Application System](#), where you will be asked to register and set up a profile in order to begin your fellowship application.

International and Regional News

[U.S. Warns of Pending Syrian Massacre in Aleppo](#)

[تكريم طبيبين إيرانيين المولد على عملهما في مجال مكافحة الإيدز وفيرس إتش آي في](#)

[AIDS 2012: High Hopes for Vaccine, Progress for Mothers, Children](#)

[مؤتمر الإيدز 2012: آمال كبيرة باكتشاف لقاح وتحقيق تقدم في وقاية الأمهات وأطفالهن](#)

[Iranian-Born Doctors Honored for HIV/AIDS Work](#)

[نص كلمة كلينتون في المنتدى السنوي حول منع الإبادة الجماعية](#)

[Clinton's Remarks at Symposium on Genocide Prevention](#)

[بيان وزارة الخارجية عن دعم خريطة طريق الأمم المتحدة بشأن معسكر أشرف](#)

[State Dept. on Support for U.N. Roadmap on Camp Ashraf](#)

[فحوى اجتماع نائب الرئيس بايدن مع لفيف من الزعماء الأميركيين - العرب](#)

[Summary of Biden's Meeting with Arab-American Leaders](#)